



Bill Richardson
Governor
Jan Goodwin
Secretary

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
Taxation and Revenue Department
An Equal Opportunity Employer

DIVISIONS

Office of the Secretary
(505) 827-0341
Administrative Services
(505) 827-0369
Audit and Compliance
(505) 827-0900
Motor Vehicle
(505) 827-2296
Property Tax
(505) 827-0870
Revenue Processing
(505) 827-0800
Tax Fraud Investigations
(505) 841-6544

**Las Cruces Woman Who Pleaded Guilty
To Five Counts of Tax Evasion Must Pay State \$98,000 in Restitution**

For Immediate Release
December 20, 2005

Contact Kathleen Baca
(505) 827-0313

SANTA FE – Judge Stephen Bridgforth of the Third Judicial District Court in Dona Ana County sentenced Las Cruces resident Jacqueline Jarisch on Monday to five years probation and restitution to the state of approximately \$98,000 for attempting to evade personal income taxes and for making a false statement. The case was investigated by the New Mexico Taxation and Revenue Department's Tax Fraud Investigations Division (TFID).

In October Jarisch pleaded guilty to three counts of tax evasion and two counts of making a false statement. Judge Bridgforth suspended Jarisch's six-year sentence. In addition to the five years of probation, Jarisch will have four years to pay the state approximately \$98,000 in restitution; and 90 days to file Federal and State income tax returns for the years 1998 – 2004. Jarisch will also have to perform 50 hours of community service.

In response to a request by Jarisch's attorney C. J. McElhinney for a deferred sentence based on the condition that she pay all back taxes, penalties and interest to the state Judge Bridgforth replied: "This enterprise went on way too long for the court to consider deferring it."

Jarisch failed to file New Mexico Personal Income Tax Returns, a felony offense, for 2001, 2002, and 2003. In 2002 and 2003 Jarisch made false statements on her Forms W-4, Employee's Withholding Allowance Certificate.

"The majority of New Mexicans pay their taxes," said Secretary of Taxation and Revenue Jan Goodwin, "But there are those who think that they can cheat the state out of money that is used for our schools, roads and social services. Thanks to the work of the Tax Fraud Investigations Division, New Mexicans can no longer get away without paying their fair share."

To date TFID has assisted the state in recouping over \$3.2 million in unpaid taxes; referred 28 criminal tax investigations to various New Mexico District Attorney's Offices and is currently investigating over 50 additional criminal tax cases. Secretary Goodwin created the Tax Fraud Investigations Division in 2003.

To report suspected tax fraud against the State of New Mexico call the Tax Fraud Hotline at 1-866-457-6789.